

United States Department of Agriculture



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MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 360-5-27

SUBJECT: PER-SAFETY AND HEALTH

Purpose. To provide information on smoke detector testing.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2006.

Smoke detectors are an essential part of home fire safety. To keep your family safe from fire, remember and make use of the following information. Your life may depend on it. Everyday in America smoke detectors are saving lives, by alerting families when a fire is present. These devices can not save lives when they are not working properly. Are yours working?

Under a separate cover, a pamphlet titled, "Is Your Smoke Detector Working?" along with stickers is being sent to each employee. Use these stickers to remind yourself once a month to check your smoke detector(s) to make sure the device is working. It only takes two seconds to do and it could save your life. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations, or use the test button. To keep the smoke detector working, thoroughly clean the device every six months. While performing a yearly inspection, change the battery and clean the smoke detector again.

When a new smoke detector needs to be installed, make sure to place the smoke detector in a proper place like the ceiling or a spot closest to the ceiling. When mounted on a wall, place it a minimum of 4" and a maximum of 12" from the ceiling. Also make sure the unit has been tested properly and contains a UL or FM label.

Your smoke detector device is an essential warning system necessary for the safety of you and your family. If a fire were to break out you would want the device to be working. Remember check the smoke detector once a month. The life you save could be your own!

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

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